IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 071195-00010

Group Art Unit:	3661	)	
		)	
Examiner:	Michael J. Zanelli (presumed)	)	
		)	
Inventors:	Gregory E. Schafer *et al.*	)	
		)	
Serial No.:	09/904,834	)	**APPLICANTS'**
		)	**PRELIMINARY**
Filed:	July 16,2001	)	**AMENDMENT**
		)	
For:	INTELLIGENT LIFT INTERLOCK SYSTEM	)	
		)	
		)	

Mail Stop CPA
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box. 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request that the present Preliminary Amendment be considered prior to the substantive examination of the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel all pending claims and add new Claims 28 through 32 as follows:

28. (New) An interlock circuit for use in a vehicle having an on-board

power supply, a gear shift lever, and a parking brake, to prevent the operation of the vehicle when an auxiliary device is turned on or is in an operational state, the circuit comprising:

a microprocessor; and

a plurality of sensors operatively associated with said microprocessor for sensing various parameters, said sensors including a sensor for sensing when said auxiliary device is turned on or is in said operational state, a gear shift lever sensor for sensing the position of the gear shift lever, and a parking brake sensor for sensing the position of the parking brake.

29. (New) The interlock circuit of Claim 28, further comprising a circuit for operating said microprocessor through the vehicle's power supply, said circuit including a step-down voltage regulator connected between said microprocessor and said power supply.

30. (New) The interlock circuit of Claim 28, further comprising a filter circuit provided between at least one of said sensors and said microprocessor for isolating said microprocessor from a voltage spike.

31. (New) The interlock circuit of Claim 28, further comprising a filter circuit provided between each of said sensors and said microprocessor for isolating said microprocessor from a voltage spike.